

from Camp Merritt, and the total strength of the Company for overseas service was four officers and 221 men.

EMBARKATION

Eight a. m., Monday, August 5, 1918, each man slung equipment, hiked 500 yards, entrained at 8:45 a. m. and arrived at port of embarkation 1:30 p. m. same day. After being served hot coffee by the ladies of the Red Cross, went aboard the transport H. M. S. *Acquittania* and sailed at 5 p. m. out of Dock 54, Cunard Line, Hoboken, New Jersey. Despite the smoky haze, the big red sun bade Godspeed to the huge ship and its cargo of good spirited young Americans as they passed the Statue of Liberty enlightening the world, and left them to the mystery of the sea, as he sank behind the metropolis of the world's greatest commonwealth.

Soon the boys became well acquainted with Grill Room 74, F deck and G section. Here it seemed impossible to live a week ten feet beneath the watery surface on the hotel accommodations of English peas and fish, but all survived. The daily routine was guard duty, boat drill and physical exercise when the motion of the boat would permit. No men or lights were allowed on deck after sundown.

The big ship sailed after a day or two without a convoy—alone on the deep blue—till when near the English coast she met five escort ships, and on the morning of August 12 the spirits of the men were fine, for the first time in seven days land could be seen to the right in the form of mountains on the Wales coast. All realized that the pleasant, uneventful voyage across the calm sea was almost ended, and nothing especially notable, except on August 8, a day when there were